

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 /086 W

-----074680 120709Z /14

R 090827Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6091

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 699

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, CG, CU, BY

SUBJECT: CUBANS IN BURUNDI

1. ZAIRE'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO RWANDA, GIALO BINA TE WAPINDA, TOLD ME THIS MORNING THAT GOZ IS PRESSING FOR GREAT LAKES COMMUNITY "SUMMIT MEETING" TO DEAL WITH ALLEGED THREAT POSED BY ESTABLISHMENT CUBAN EMBASSY IN BUJUMBURA. GIALO SAID THAT VISIT ZAIRIAN FONMIN UMBA DI LUTETE HERE AND BUJUMBURA LAST MONTH WAS EXPRESSLY FOR PURPOSE OF REGISTERING ZAIRIAN CONCERN AND PROPOSING SUMMIT MEETING. RWANDANS, HE SAID, RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY, BUT PRESIDENT BAGAZA (UNDERSTANDABLY) WAS COOL TO PROPOSAL.

2. GIALO SAID MOBUTU PLANS TO DISCUSS PROBLEM AND POSSIBLE SUMMIT MEETING FURTHER, WHEN HE TRAVELS TO PARIS FOR FRANCOPHONE CONFERENCE LATER THIS MONTH. THERE HE WILL PRESUMABLY MEET WITH RWANDAN PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA BUT GIALO SAID IT REMAINED DOUBTFUL WHETHER BURUNDI'S BAGAZA WOULD ATTEND. BAGA, ON OTHER HAND, HAS EXPRESSED SOME WILLINGNESS MORE RECENTLY TO GET
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TOGETHER WITH HIS HOMOLOGUES IN GOMA, BUKAVU, OR KISANGANI. GIALO SAID HE WAS SEEING RWANDAN FONMIN NSEKALIJE THIS AFTERNOON TO PURSUE SUMMIT QUESTION FURTHER.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH LESS HYSTERICAL THAN HIS COUNTERPART IN BUJUMBURA, GIALO OBVIOUSLY HEWING TO

MOBUTU LINE ON THREAT POSED BY OPENING OF CUBAN EMBASSY
IN BUJUMBURA. I RESPONDED IN LOW KEY TO GIALO'S PRESENTATION, SAYING
THAT WASHINGTON WAS WATCHING CUBAN ACTIVITIES CLOSELY
AND WITH CONCERN, BUT SAW NO CAUSE TO PRESS PANIC
BUTTON.
CRIGLER

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Message Attributes

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